

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 567

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to recognize Bill Shuster, Editor and Publisher of the *Herald-Citizen* in Cookeville, on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those outstanding publishers and editors who, in their years at the helm of local newspapers, have chronicled the life of their respective communities and regions with uncommon insight, creativity, clarity, and commitment to fair and factual reporting; and

WHEREAS, Bill Shuster is one such exemplary newspaperman and estimable person who has served with distinction at the *Herald-Citizen* for more than 39 years, holding the position of publisher since October of 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shuster took a much deserved retirement at the end of April, ending a career that began as a journeyman printer in Nashville prior to his relocation to Cookeville, where he started as a pressman for the two weekly papers at that time, the *Putnam County Herald* and the *Cookeville Citizen*; and

WHEREAS, named the production manager in 1970 of the two papers that merged the same year, Mr. Shuster saw Cookeville grow from a small city to a regional hub with a newspaper that has expanded from two issues a week to five and then to six with the Sunday edition; and

WHEREAS, under Publisher Shuster's leadership, the paper has opened an innovative modern plant on Neal Street, added new full-color capabilities to presses, updated computer software and hardware multiple times to remain on the cutting-edge, and created new sections, while winning numerous awards from the Tennessee Press Association and the Tennessee Associated Press; and

WHEREAS, giving back to the community under the guidance of Bill Shuster, the newspaper has worked with area high school journalism programs, adopted the local Adult High

School and created an annual scholarship program for students, sponsored the *Herald-Citizen* Conference Room in Leslie Town Centre, and invested in Highlands Initiative; and

WHEREAS, in his capacity as editor and publisher, Bill Shuster has established the *Herald-Citizen* as a flagship in the Upper Cumberland, while increasing circulation and adding to the bottom line every year; and

WHEREAS, a native of White County and graduate of White County High School, Bill Shuster proudly served in the United States Army as a member of a tank crew of the 30<sup>th</sup> Armory Division and later served with the National Guard and Army Aviation Group reserve units; and

WHEREAS, beginning his professional career in 1961, Mr. Shuster worked for McQuiddy Printing Company in Nashville and later Marshall and Bruce Co., a commercial printing company also in Nashville, before spotting an advertisement for a newspaper pressman in May of 1968 that brought him to Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, an active and important part of his community, he is a member of the Cookeville Breakfast Rotary, a former board member of the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the board of Genesis House, and a trustee of Tennessee Tech University College of Business Administration Foundation; and

WHEREAS, an admired and respected member of his profession, Bill Shuster is a three-term board director of the Tennessee Press Association and a board trustee of the TPA Foundation; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Bill Shuster enjoys the love and companionship of his wife, Jan, and their son and daughter-in-law, Tim and Margaret Shuster, and wonderful grandson, Eli; and

WHEREAS, during his retirement years, Mr. Shuster looks forward to spending more time with his family, playing more golf, traveling, and fishing; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Shuster has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and readers alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Bill Shuster for his years of exemplary service to his community as Publisher and Editor of the *Herald Citizen* and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.